

## **SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of the Meeting**

**Friday, April 16, 2004**

**10:30 AM**

**201 Blatt Bldg.**

**Members Present/Participating** (the meeting was held by conference call): Mr. Bob Staton, Mr. Alex Martin, Mrs. Traci Cooper, Mr. Bob Daniel, Senator Robert Giese, Mr. Bob Lightsey

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Staton welcomed participants and observers to the meeting. He explained that Dr. Nielsen was unavailable to participate and that he was going to appoint an ad hoc committee to meet with representatives of the Governor to learn about the proposal and how the system would work.

- II. **Question**  
Mr. Staton indicated that Mr. Lightsey and Representative Neal, would join him on the ad hoc group. He indicated that other members could volunteer. He asked members to offer questions and/or issues that should be discussed the ad hoc group meeting. Those included the following:

### **Questions on H4908**

1. If the legislation is enacted, will there be an accountability component? What is the curriculum the state is supporting? What are the testing requirements?
2. Should the students be subject to PACT?
3. What does "restore parental control" mean? How is that implemented?
4. Does it really assist students in poverty? Beyond theory, into practice. . .
5. How does the legislation define what is and what is not a school? Are there criteria for eligibility (e.g. accreditation, minimum program standards)? Should home schooling be defined in greater detail?
6. What are expectations for teacher quality? Do the teachers have to be "highly qualified"?
7. How does it work financially?
8. If more than ten percent transfer, does that take the sending district completely out of the state accountability system?
9. How do the students/schools interface with athletics, academic competitions, and co-curricular activities?
10. How do parents determine quality?
11. What is the fiscal impact ---on parents, schools and the state?
12. What is the long-term impact on state revenues?
13. How does this fit with No Child Left Behind?

14. How are funds replaced for school districts?
15. What are the parameters to define scholarship-granting organizations? Could an individual establish his/her own?
16. What percent of South Carolinians own property...and would benefit from the property tax credit?
17. What is the overall impact on public education? What are the implications for struggling school districts?
18. What is the impact on the overall funding level for public education?
19. Would private schools remain private; would public education be public?
20. Are private schools private with public dollars supporting?

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.